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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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For Information Contact Public Affairs  
HARRIET BERNICK  
Telephone: (602) 514-7736  
Pager: (602) 356-0004

# **KINGMAN MAN SENTENCED TO 10 YEARS, 8 MONTHS FOR DISTRIBUTION AND RECEIPT OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

**PHOENIX, ARIZONA** –The United States Attorneys Office for the District of Arizona, announced that on 5/5/03, Hector Vasquez, 6/28/65, of Kingman, Arizona, was sentenced to 10 years, 8 months (128 months) prison by United States District Judge Mary Murguia, in Phoenix, Arizona.

On March 8, 2002, a federal trial jury found the defendant guilty of 30 counts involving the distribution, receipt and possession of child pornography. The images included ones in which children were engaged in sexual acts with adults. Many of the images involved children under the age of 12 and some of the children in the images were as young as 5 years old. Three of the counts of the indictment also involved the defendant having distributed disks containing child pornography to a 14-year-old boy.

The case was initiated in April of 1998 when the defendant's girlfriend advised law enforcement that the defendant had been creating false checks with his computer. The girlfriend alleged that the defendant was using the fraudulent checks to purchase computer equipment (which he then resold.) The girlfriend also told agents that she had seen the defendant view child pornography with his computer.

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Pursuant to a search warrant, executed on April 15, 1998, by the Kingman Police Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the defendant's computer and several disks were seized.

A computer expert then analyzed the defendant's computer and disks and found a significant amount of child pornography. In trial, the defendant's former girlfriend testified that the defendant called her into a room where the defendant was watching a computer video clip of a child who appeared to be approximately 7-years-old being sexually abused by a man. The child in the video clip was crying and saying "No, daddy, don't." The girlfriend testified that the defendant was smiling and laughing as he viewed that video clip.

The minor child, to whom the images had been distributed, testified in trial that the defendant gave him disks containing child as well as other hard core pornography and that the defendant encouraged him to view the disks. The boy admitted that when he took possession of the disks, he showed his other under-aged friends.

Another former girlfriend testified in trial that when she knew the defendant in 1996, the defendant not only collected, but categorized his child pornography. She believed that he possessed in excess of 2000 images of child pornography.

On March 2, 2002, the defendant was found guilty of 3 counts of distribution of child pornography; 24 counts of receipt of child pornography and 3 counts of possession of child pornography.

In trial, the defendant testified that he had downloaded child pornography, but that he had been collecting it for the police in hopes that the people sending the material could be identified and apprehended. At sentencing, the trial judge found that there was absolutely no evidence to support this testimony. The trial judge found that when the defendant took the stand and lied for himself, that he had committed obstruction of justice, tantamount to perjury. The trial judge used the obstruction of justice as a basis to increase the defendant's ultimate sentence.

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The defendant was sentenced to 128 months prison and 3 years supervised release for the counts involving receipt and distribution of child pornography. The defendant was sentenced to 60 months, concurrent, for the possession of child pornography. As part of the sentence, the defendant will be required to register as a sex offender. Once released from prison, he will be required to attend sex offender counseling and abide by other stringent conditions of release, including no contact with children under the age of 18.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the Kingman Police Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The prosecution was handled by Sharon K. Sexton, Assistant United States Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix, Arizona.

CASE NUMBER: CR-01-659-PCT-MHM  
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